



National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

Washington, D.C.  
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DEC 24 1985

Reply to Attn of:

EC

DEC 23 1985

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Mr. William L. Mayo  
COMSAT General  
950 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
8th Floor  
Washington DC 20024

Dear Bill:

As you suggested in our telephone conversation of October 23, 1985, Dom Santarpia; a member of my staff met with Larry Westerland to discuss NASA's use of the 500 KHz UHF channel on MARISAT in a spread spectrum mode. Subsequent to this meeting, several discussions were also held with equipment manufacturers on the subject of costs for spread spectrum UHF voice communications. Because of technical considerations as well as the prohibitive cost of spread spectrum equipment it was decided that the use of a dedicated 25 KHz MARISAT channel and FM voice communications would be the more prudent approach.

Based upon our findings I would like to suggest that your efforts to gain Department of Defense support for use of the 500 KHz MARISAT channel frequencies be focused instead on obtaining support for use of the MARISAT 25 KHz channel frequencies. The uplink band is centered at 311.15 MHz and the downlink band is centered at 257.55 MHz band.

Using the assumption that NASA would be allowed use of the MARISAT narrowband UHF channel, could you provide me with a cost proposal on leasing this channel for the duration of the life of the satellite.

Once again thank you for your interest and your help in our effort in finding a replacement for the ATS-1 satellite.

Sincerely

*George H. Kruze for*  
Robert R. Lovell  
Director, Communications Division

cc:  
EC/D. Santarpia

Declassified for NASA equities per NASA  
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